THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The information is being collected.

(b) No Internet Service Provider has been found to be involved in such publications.

(c) A PIL was heard by Delhi High Court in February 2002 on the subject of exposure of children to pornography through Cyber Cafes.

Investment in Bangalore Satellite Earth Station

2661. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to State:

(a) the money invested in Bangalore Satellite Earth Station, not at present in use by C.DoT, Bangalore for providings satellite phone service;

(b) the reasons for not using the facilities; and

(c) the plan proposed to revive this and put to use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The money spent so far on this project is Rs. 21.8 crores including the cost of mobile terminals equipment.

(b) There was unstable performance of Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) transponders installed on INSAT-2C and INSAT-3B and failure of INSAT 2D. As such the basic delay was due to non-availability of space segment.

(c) The characteristics of the Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) transponders on INSAT 3C launched in January 2002 are under observation. As there has been considerable delay from the initial launch of the project, the demand from the users as well as

manufacturability issues for remote terminals and continuous availability of MSS transponders are to be reconfirmed before revival of the project.

Telephone under OFC system in Chhattisgarh

†2662. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to State:

(a) the number of telephones provided in rural areas through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) systems under Chhattisgarh telecom circle;

(b) the number of villages of Chhattisgarh which have been selected for telephone connections after laying of underground cable in rural areas;

(c) the number of villages which have actually been connected to cable system; and

(d) the details of the villages of Jashpur district which have been connected to cable system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Normally Optical fibre Cable is used for providing connectivity to telephone exchanges and not for providing telephone connections directly. So far 165 rural telephone exchanges in Chhattisgarh telecom circle have been provided with Optical fibre Cable.

(b) 3168 villages of Chhattisgarh had been selected for providing telephone connections by underground cable.

(c) 1874 villages have already been provided telephone facility by using underground cable.

(d) 168 villages of Jashpur district have connected to cable system

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.